

# **Innovative Assessment Demonstrated Authority (IADA) Grades 4 and 7 Mathematics Interim Assessment Test Specifications North Carolina Personalized Assessment Tool**

## **Purpose and Overview**

The North Carolina Personalized Assessment Tool is a system of through-course assessment opportunities aimed toward a balanced assessment system that will provide granular data for immediate feedback about students' performance throughout the year. The system is currently being developed as a pilot under the U.S Department of Education's Innovative Assessment Demonstration Authority (IADA) grant.

The current design purposes of the North Carolina Personalized Assessment Tool are:

- provide educators, students, and stakeholders with immediate and detailed feedback on grade-level-specific content standards so classroom instruction may be tailored to an individual student's needs;
- provide a progress indicator for each interim on an individual student's performance in relation to overall grade level performance expectation; and
- serve as a reliable indicator to determine appropriate starting points for students on the modified adaptive fixed forms that will provide an academic achievement level for students and for the statewide accountability model.

## **Content Specifications**

Grade 4: The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) Accountability Services/Test Development Section facilitated a test specification workshop as part of the process to gather input from relevant stakeholders. The goal of the test specification workshop was to gain input from teachers and curriculum specialists from across the state to guide recommended groupings of grade 4 mathematics content standards for the various Personalized Assessment Tool interims. Participants at the workshop reviewed all fourth-grade mathematics content standards, then prioritized and grouped them into three main categories based on their local curriculum preferences. The proposed content specification for Personalized Assessment Tool grade 4 mathematics interims are shown in Table 1. Following the test specification workshop, the NCDPI Test Development staff reviewed and summarized panelist recommendations to ensure alignment with other technical design specifications.

Grade 7: Because of COVID-19, the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) Accountability Services/Test Development Section was unable to facilitate a test specification workshop to gather input from relevant stakeholders. Instead, a series of surveys was utilized to gather input from IADA program participants across the state. The goal of the test specification surveys was to gain input from teachers and curriculum specialists to guide recommended groupings of grade 7 mathematics content standards for the various Personalized Assessment Tool interims. Participants were asked to review all seventh-grade mathematics content standards and then prioritize them based on their local curriculum preferences. This feedback was used to create proposed content standard groupings for the Personalized Assessment Tool grade 7

mathematics interims. A follow-up survey was utilized to share the proposed content standard groupings with teachers and curriculum specialists to gauge how well the proposed groupings fit their formative assessment data needs. Results from that survey were used to confirm the testing specifications, as seen in Table 2. Finally, the NCDPI Test Development staff reviewed and summarized panelist recommendations to ensure alignment with other technical design specifications.

**Table 1: Content Specifications NCPAT Math Grade 4**

Grade 4 Mathematics North Carolina Personalized Assessment Tool Interim Assessed Standards		
Interim A	Interim B	Interim C
4.OA.1	4.OA.3	4.NBT.5
4.NBT.2	4.NBT.5	4.NF.3
4.NBT.4	4.NBT.6	4.NF.4
4.NBT.7	4.NF.1	4.NF.6
4.G.1 and 4.MD.3	4.NF.2	4.NF.7
		4.G.2 and 4.MD.4

**Table 2: Content Specifications NCPAT Math Grade 7**

Grade 7 Mathematics North Carolina Personalized Assessment Tool Interim Assessed Standards		
Interim A	Interim B	Interim C
7.G.1	7.EE.1	7.EE.4
7.NS.3	7.EE.3	7.G.5
7.RP.1	7.EE.4	7.G.6
7.RP.2	7.NS.3	7.SP.7
7.RP.3	7.RP.3	7.SP.8

## Test Format

NC Personalized Assessment Tool interims are currently being developed as online fixed-form assessments with twenty-five total items each. Each of the three interims will include four-option multiple-choice items, open-ended numeric response items, and technology-enhanced items. The grades 4 and 7 mathematics interims will have calculator inactive and calculator active sections.

## Test Administration

The NCDPI will offer a flexible test administration window for all mathematics interim assessments to accommodate districts' local control of the curriculum. The window for all

mathematics interims will open early in the school year. The NCDPI will provide optional recommended administration windows for each mathematics interim. Local districts and schools can choose to set their administration window to reflect individual curriculum.

Like NC Check-Ins, teachers will be given access to interim items for a limited period of time following administration. Proctors are not recommended for the administration of interims. The interims are not timed assessments; however, the recommended time for most students to complete a twenty-five-item interim is about ninety minutes.